

CONSTITUTION OF THE NEBRASKA/AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF FRENCH

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Nebraska Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French.

Article II: Territory

The territory of the Nebraska Chapter shall include the State of Nebraska.

Article III: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to serve the interests of teachers of French at all levels, to stimulate professional growth and to foster interest in the French language, literature and culture.

Article IV: Membership

1. Upon payment of dues, membership in the Nebraska Chapter shall be open to teachers of French at all levels, to former teachers of French, administrators, students of French, and friends of the French language and culture. Regular membership runs from January 1 to December 31.

2. Student membership is for the academic year and runs from September 1 to August 31 of the following year. Student membership is available only through the national office of the AATF.

3. Life membership may be purchased from the National Office for a sum equivalent to twenty times the regular membership fee. After forty years of regular membership, Life status will be granted upon request from the member.

4. After the age of fifty-five, a member who retires from teaching may upon request be transferred to Emeritus Membership, provided that he or she has been an active member for a minimum of ten consecutive years and is still a member at the time of application for such status. Eligibility for Emeritus Membership is to be established by direct correspondence with the National Office. Emeritus members pay one-half the regular membership fee and enjoy the full rights of an active member.

Article V: Dues

Dues shall be sent by each chapter member directly to the National Office. Chapters receive 15% of the national dues payment for each Active Member affiliated with the chapter to finance the activities of the chapter. The dues for regular members are payable in the fall of the year preceding the membership year. Members who have not paid their dues by December 31 are delinquent.

Article VI: Officers

The officers of the Nebraska Chapter shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Only AATF members in good standing (dues paid up to date) may be nominated and serve as officers.

1. The duties of the President, in addition to those of calling and presiding over meetings of the Chapter, shall be to appoint the National French Contest Administrator and to serve as program chair. The term of office of the President, who is elected in odd-numbered years, shall be two years. The President may be re-elected.
2. The term of Vice-President, who is elected in odd-numbered years, shall coincide with that of the President. The Vice-President shall preside over meetings and act in place of the President in the absence of the latter. If the President becomes unable to complete the term for any reason, the Vice-President shall succeed to the presidency and complete the President's term. The Vice-President may be reelected.
3. The Secretary shall make the necessary mailing(s) to the Chapter members, serve as custodian of the constitution and chapter records, keep the minutes of the Chapter meetings, send report of meetings to the French Review as desired by the Chapter, and serve as French editor of NILA. The term of office of Secretary, who is elected in odd-numbered years, shall be two years. The Secretary may be reelected.
4. The Treasurer shall receive and deposit 15% of the dues of Chapter members from the National Office into the NAATF bank account, send Chapter reports to the National Office, keep detailed financial accounts of receipts and disbursements, make a complete financial report at the fall meeting of the Chapter, keep an up-to-date list of active members of the Chapter and furnish copies to the members of the Executive Board of the Chapter. The Treasurer shall post the annual financial report on the NAATF web site. The term of office of Treasurer, who is elected in even-numbered years, shall be two years. The Treasurer may be reelected.

Each year, the President shall by February 1 appoint a nominating committee of three members chosen from the membership of the Chapter. This committee shall present a slate of nominees at the fall meeting of the Chapter. Nominees may also be proposed from the floor. The new officers shall enter upon their functions as of June 1, and the Secretary shall immediately certify the results of the elections to the National Office

through the Regional Representative. Election shall be by a majority of those voting at the fall meeting.

If an office becomes vacant through the death, resignation, or any other reason of the incumbent, the vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the term by appointment of the Executive Board.

Article VII: Meetings

The Chapter shall have at least two meetings a year, one in connection with the annual meeting of the Nebraska International Language Association. Other special meetings may be called by the President in consultation with the members of the Executive Board. A quorum shall consist of ten percent of the membership.

Article VIII: Executive Board

The Executive Board of the Chapter shall consist of the four elected officers, the immediate Past President, and the National French Contest Administrator. It is authorized to conduct all important business between meetings, to approve all orders drawn against funds of the Chapter, and may be called into session or consulted by telephone or email at the initiative of the President. Its decisions must be submitted to the general membership for ratification at the next meeting of the Chapter. All decisions involving policy changes must be submitted to the general membership for ratification.

Article IX: Amendments

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting, providing that notice announcing the exact nature and wording of the proposed amendment shall have been published on the NAATF web site or sent to members prior to the meeting.

Article X: Applicability of National Constitution

All articles of the National Constitution and By-Laws apply to the Nebraska Chapter. Nothing in this Constitution is to be considered in contradiction to the National Constitution.

Article XI: Dissolution

This Chapter may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a regular or special meeting, or through the suspension of its charter by the National Organization acting under the authority of National By-Law II 5(c). In case of dissolution, all remaining funds in the Chapter treasury and all Chapter records shall be turned over to the National Executive Secretary of the AATF under the terms of the aforementioned By-Law.

Article XII: Ratification

This Constitution shall be deemed ratified on adoption by two-thirds of the members present and voting at the Chapter meeting of October 15, 2005. Said meeting to be held in Lincoln, Nebraska.